IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hiroto HORIKAWA

Application No.: 09/139,296

Filed: August 25, 1998

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

2852

S. Virmani

Docket No.:

101809.01

ANNING EXPOSURE APPARATUS USING STAGE UNIT, DRIVE TAE For:

SAME

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

JUN 28 1999

Sir:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

In response to the Office Action dated April 22, 1999, Applicant requests reconsideration of this application for the reasons set forth below.

STATUS OF PETITION TO CORRECT INVENTORSHIP I.

On January 11, 1999, a Petition to Correct Inventorship, along with an Amendment of Inventorship was filed. The Petition and Amendment deleted the first named inventor, Toshio OHTOMO, in view of the Supplemental Preliminary Amendment, which cancelled claims 1-27. Thus, the only inventor of the present application should be Hiroto HORIKAWA.

The April 22 Office Action did not acknowledge the Petition and Amendment to Correct Inventorship. It is requested that the Petition be granted and that the inventorship be amended as noted above.

THE CLAIMS DEFINE PATENTABLE SUBJECT II. MATTER OVER U.S. PATENT NO. 5,850,280

The Office Action rejects claims 28-31 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 5,850,280 to Ohtomo et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.